

## Community resources

[Follow us on Twitter](#) [Check our Reddit](#) [Twitter this](#) [Digg this page](#) [Contact us on IRC](#)

*courage is contagious*

## Viewing cable 10KYIV190, FORMER PRESIDENT KUCHMA ON UKRAINIAN ELECTION,

If you are new to these pages, please read an introduction on the [structure of a cable](#) as well as how to [discuss them](#) with others. See also the [FAQs](#)

### Understanding cables

Every cable message consists of three parts:

- The top box shows each cable's unique reference number, when and by whom it originally was sent, and what its initial classification was.
- The middle box contains the header information that is associated with the cable. It includes information about the receiver(s) as well as a general subject.
- The bottom box presents the body of the cable. The opening can contain a more specific subject, references to other cables ([browse by origin](#) to find them) or additional comment. This is followed by the main contents of the cable: a summary, a collection of specific topics and a comment section.

To understand the justification used for the classification of each cable, please use this [WikiSource](#) article as reference.

### Discussing cables

If you find meaningful or important information in a cable, please link directly to its unique reference number. Linking to a specific paragraph in the body of a cable is also possible by copying the appropriate link (to be found at the paragraph symbol). Please mark messages for social networking services like Twitter with the hash tags **#cablegate** and a hash containing the reference ID e.g. **#10KYIV190**.

Reference ID	Created	Released	Classification	Origin
<a href="#">10KYIV190</a>	<a href="#">2010-02-03 15:06</a>	<a href="#">2011-08-30 01:44</a>	<a href="#">CONFIDENTIAL</a>	<a href="#">Embassy Kyiv</a>

Appears in these articles:

<http://rusrep.ru/article/2010/12/02/kuchma/>

VZCZCXRO5309  
PP RUEHDBU RUEHSL  
DE RUEHKV #0190/01 0341506  
ZNY CCCCC ZZH  
P 031506Z FEB 10  
FM AMEMBASSY KYIV  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9269  
INFO RUCNCIS/CIS COLLECTIVE  
RUEHZG/NATO EU COLLECTIVE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 KYIV 000190

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 02/02/2020

TAGS: [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [ENRG](#) [MARR](#) [UP](#) [RS](#)

SUBJECT: FORMER PRESIDENT KUCHMA ON UKRAINIAN ELECTION,  
FOREIGN POLICY

Classified By: Ambassador John F. Tefft ...

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 KYIV 000190 SIPDIS E.O. 12958: DECL: 02/02/2020 TAGS: [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [ENRG](#) [MARR](#) [UP](#) [RS](#)

1. (C) Former Ukrainian President Kuchma had no kind words for the current "orange" government, accusing it of ruining the economy and the country.
2. (C) Former Ukrainian President (1995-2005) Leonid Kuchma opened his February 2 introductory meeting with Ambassador Tefft with a critical assessment of the current government.
3. (C) In the February 7 presidential runoff election, Ukrainians "are choosing between bad and very bad," said Kuchma. He added that he supported the current government.
4. (C) Kuchma fully expected Yanukovich to win on February 7. Rather than beginning to call foreign leaders, said Kuchma, Yanukovich should wait for the results.
5. (C) Speaking about some of the next-generation Ukrainian political leaders, Kuchma expressed confidence in Arseniy Yatsenyuk, whose "great expectations" he shared.
6. (C) Neither Yanukovich nor his advisors are pawns of Russia, Kuchma insisted, nor is Tymoshenko necessarily "pro-European." Indeed, the Russian government is the main obstacle to Ukraine's development.
7. (C) Ukraine had had a gas agreement with Russia with a price of \$50 per TCM through the year 2010, Kuchma averred. Russia had abrogated the agreement.
8. (C) Kuchma downplayed the strategic importance of the Russian Black Sea Fleet (BSF), saying it could dispatch a ship to scare Georgia, but it was not a threat.
9. (C) Ukraine would never recognize Abkhazia or South Ossetia as independent, Kuchma insisted. However, the 2008 war in Georgia had raised serious questions about the future of the region.
10. (C) Kuchma displayed a bit of historical amnesia in suggesting that Yanukovich had avoided using administrative resources in his failed attempt to win the election.